



**ERIC GIBSON**  
DIRECTOR

## County of San Diego

### DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND LAND USE

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October 30, 2008

### **CEQA Initial Study - Environmental Checklist Form** (Based on the State CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G Rev. 10/98)

1. Project Number(s)/Environmental Log Number/Title:

TPM 20846, Log No. 04-08-030 – Pizzuto Minor Subdivision

2. Lead agency name and address:

County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use  
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B,  
San Diego, CA 92123-1666

3. a. Contact Marisa Smith, Planner  
b. Phone number: (858) 694-2621  
c. E-mail: [marisa.smith@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:marisa.smith@sdcounty.ca.gov).

4. Project location:

The project is located at 2755 Deer Springs Place, which intersects at Deer Spring Road in the Twin Oaks Valley Sponsor Group within the North County Metro Community Planning Area. (APN 178-100-07-00)

Thomas Brothers Coordinates: Page 1089, Grid A/6

5. Project sponsor's name and address:

Carl & Sylvia Pizzuto  
773 Hillsboro Way  
San Marcos, CA 92069

6. General Plan Designation  
Community Plan:  
Land Use Designation:  
Density:

North County Metro  
18/Multiple Rural Use  
1 du/4, 8 or 20 acre(s)

7. Zoning  
Use Regulation: A70/Limited Agriculture  
Density: 1 du/4 acre(s)  
Special Area Regulation: None

8. Description of project -

This project proposes to subdivide a 41.1-acre (38.61 acre net) parcel into three residential lots ranging in size from 8.26 acres to 20.20 acres gross. Parcel 1 will be 20.20 acres (15.80 acres net); the proposed location of the pad will be at the highest point on the property at the summit of a hill at an elevation of approximately 1177 feet. Parcel 2 will be 8.26 acres (8.02 acres net) and will be east and at a lower elevation from Parcel 1, approximately 1125 feet. Parcel 3 will be 12.68 acres (12.44 acres net) and the pad will be located south of Parcel 2, across the private road (Clayton Place). The proposed pad for Parcel 3 will be at an elevation of 1175 feet. Clayton Place, an extension of Deer Springs Place, bisects the parcel from south to northeast.

An existing 8" line located in a San Marcos Water District easement that follows Deer Springs Place and Clayton Place will provide water. A private septic system will be installed for each lot. Multiple rock outcroppings are located throughout the property and are only slightly affected by the proposed grading. Steep slopes greater than 25% comprise 85.4 percent of the project site.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The project is vacant land located on a steep hillside approximately ¼ mile north of Deer Spring Road. The vegetation on the site consists almost entirely of Coastal Sage/Chaparral Scrub. To the east, on a comparably size parcel is covered with an avocado orchard, a primary residence at the highest point and a second farm worker residence at a lower level close to the boundary with the subject parcel and near the proposed pad location of parcel 3. To the north are 40-acre parcels of open, vacant mountains covered with native vegetation, part of the Merriam Mountains. No residences were observed. To the west and northwest, the land drops off abruptly into a deep valley consisting of non-native grasslands with few residences. Across the valley to the west and northwest are mostly vacant lands, mountains and native vegetation with some orchards more to the southwest. A few large rural estates residences are scattered across the vista of the southwest. Directly to the south and at a lower elevation, along Deer Spring Place and Deer Springs Road, are several rural residential lots ranging in size from 3.84 acres to 13.75 acres. A large nursery is also located to the south, along Deer Spring Road.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement):

**Permit Type/Action**

Tentative Parcel Map

**Agency**

County of San Diego

Grading Permit

County of San Diego

Improvement Plans

County of San Diego

Septic Tank Permit

County of San Diego

General Construction Storm water

RWQCB

Permit

Waste Discharge Requirements Permit

RWQCB

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:** The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Aesthetics</a>                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Agriculture Resources</a>                         | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Air Quality</a>                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Biological Resources</a> | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Cultural Resources</a>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Geology &amp; Soils</a>               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Hazards &amp; Haz. Materials</a>    | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Hydrology &amp; Water Quality</a>                 | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Land Use &amp; Planning</a>           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Mineral Resources</a>               | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Noise</a>   | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Population &amp; Housing</a>          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Public Services</a>                 | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Recreation</a>                                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Transportation/Traffic</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Utilities &amp; Service Systems</a> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Mandatory Findings of Significance</a> |  |

**DETERMINATION:** (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☐ On the basis of this Initial Study, the Department of Planning and Land Use finds that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ On the basis of this Initial Study, the Department of Planning and Land Use finds that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ On the basis of this Initial Study, the Department of Planning and Land Use finds that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

October 30, 2008

Signature

Date

Marisa Smith

Land Use/Environmental Planner

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Printed Name

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Title

## INSTRUCTIONS ON EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. “Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a) The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

**I. AESTHETICS** -- Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** Scenic vistas are singular vantage points that offer unobstructed views of valued viewsheds, including areas designated as official scenic vistas along major highways. Based on a site visit completed by staff on May 2005, the proposed project is located near or within the viewshed of a scenic vista. The viewshed and visible components of the landscape within that viewshed, including the underlying landform and overlaying landcover, establish the visual environment for the scenic vista. The visual environment of the subject scenic vista extends from Interstate 15; and the visual composition consists of foothills with dense rock outcroppings, and native vegetation.

The proposed project is a minor residential subdivision. The project is compatible with the existing visual environment's in terms of visual character and quality for the following reasons: a majority of the project will be blocked from the Interstate 15 Scenic Corridor by foothills. The proposed project site is 1.3 miles from the Interstate, and is obstructed by the natural land features. In addition, the applicant agrees to the conditioning of the project by the use of a Landscape Plan to reduce the visual impact caused by the proposed grading of the proposed private road and building pads.

The project will not result in cumulative impacts on a scenic vista because the entire existing viewshed and a list of past, present and future projects within that viewshed were evaluated. Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered. Those projects listed in Section XVII are located within the scenic vista's viewshed and will not contribute to a cumulative impact for the following reasons: The proposed project site is 1.3 miles from the Interstate, and is obstructed by the natural land features and conditioning the project by the use of a Landscape Plan. Therefore, the project will not result in any adverse project or cumulative level effect on a scenic vista.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** State scenic highways refer to those highways that are officially designated. A scenic highway is officially designated as a State scenic highway when the local jurisdiction adopts a scenic corridor protection program, applies to the California Department of Transportation for scenic highway approval, and

receives notification from Caltrans that the highway has been designated as an official Scenic Highway. Based on a site visit completed by staff on May 2005, the proposed project is located near or visible within the composite viewshed of a State scenic highway. Generally, the area defined within a State scenic highway is the land adjacent to and visible from the vehicular right-of-way. The dimension of a scenic highway is usually identified using a motorist's line of vision, but a reasonable boundary is selected when the view extends to the distant horizon.

The viewshed and visible components of the landscape within the composite viewshed of the scenic highway, including the underlying landform and overlaying landcover, establish the visual environment. The visual environment of the subject scenic highway and resources extends from State Route 78 to Riverside County; and the visual composition consists of steep to rolling foothills, natural vegetation, and dense rock outcroppings.

The proposed project is a minor residential subdivision. The project is compatible with the existing visual environment in terms of visual character and quality for the following reasons: The minor residential subdivision proposes to incorporate the natural terrain and features of the land into the design of the parcels, road, and pads, rather than alter the landscape. This will be mitigated by Steep Slope Open Space and Biological Open Space over a majority of the property. In addition, a Landscape Plan will be required to ensure that the visual impact remains less than significant.

The project will not result in cumulative impacts on a scenic resource within a State scenic highway because the entire existing viewshed and a list of past, present and future projects within that viewshed were evaluated. Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered. Those projects listed in Section XVII are located within the composite viewshed of the State scenic highway and will not contribute to a cumulative impact for the following reasons: The site is not visible from the I-15 Scenic Corridor. However, due to the extensive grading of the proposed private easement, the applicant has agreed to condition the project with Landscape Plans to reduce the visual impact. Also, based on Mindy Fogg's August 16, 2007 batching report, the rock outcroppings will only be slightly affected by the proposed grading. Therefore, the project will not result in any adverse project or cumulative level effect on a scenic resource within a State scenic highway.

- c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** Visual character is the objective composition of the visible landscape within a viewshed. Visual character is based on the organization of the pattern elements line, form, color, and texture. Visual character is commonly discussed in terms of dominance, scale, diversity and continuity. Visual quality is the

viewer's perception of the visual environment and varies based on exposure, sensitivity and expectation of the viewers. The existing visual character and quality of the project site and surrounding can be characterized as steep to rolling foothills, natural vegetation, and dense rock outcroppings.

The proposed project is a minor residential subdivision. The project is compatible with the existing visual environment's visual character and quality for the following reasons: The minor residential subdivision proposes to incorporate the natural terrain and features of the land into the design of the parcels, road, and pads, rather than alter the landscape. This will be mitigated by Steep Slope Open Space and Biological Open Space over a majority of the property. In addition, a Landscape Plan will be required to ensure that the visual impact remains less than significant.

The project will not result in cumulative impacts on visual character or quality because the entire existing viewshed and a list of past, present and future projects within that viewshed were evaluated. Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered. Those projects listed in Section XVII are located within the viewshed surrounding the project and will not contribute to a cumulative impact for the following reasons: Landscaping will help the proposed roadway and single family dwellings to blend in with the surrounding land; also the large lots will ensure consistency with the surrounding development. Therefore, the project will not result in any adverse project or cumulative level effect on visual character or quality on-site or in the surrounding area.

- d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The proposed project will use outdoor lighting and is located within Zone B as identified by the San Diego County Light Pollution Code. However, it will not adversely affect nighttime views or astronomical observations, because the project will conform to the Light Pollution Code (Section 59.101-59.115), including the Zone B lamp type and shielding requirements per fixture and hours of operation limitations for outdoor lighting and searchlights.

In addition, the proposed project will control outdoor lighting and sources of glare in the following ways:

1. The project will not install outdoor lighting that directly illuminates neighboring properties.
2. The project will not install outdoor lighting that would cast a direct beam angle towards a potential observer, such as a motorists, cyclist or pedestrian.



3. The project will not install outdoor lighting for vertical surfaces such as buildings, landscaping, or signs in a manner that would result in useful light or spill light being cast beyond the boundaries of intended area to be lit.
4. The project will not install any highly reflective surfaces such as glare-producing glass or high-gloss surface color that will be visible along roadways, pedestrian walkways, or in the line of sight of adjacent properties.

The project will not contribute to significant cumulative impacts on day or nighttime views because the project conforms to the Light Pollution Code. The Code was developed by the San Diego County Department of Planning and Land Use and Department of Public Works in cooperation with lighting engineers, astronomers, land use planners from San Diego Gas and Electric, Palomar and Mount Laguna observatories, and local community planning and sponsor groups to effectively address and minimize the impact of new sources light pollution on nighttime views. The standards in the Code are the result of this collaborative effort and establish an acceptable level for new lighting. Compliance with the Code is required prior to issuance of any building permit for any project. Mandatory compliance for all new building permits ensures that this project in combination with all past, present and future projects will not contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact. Moreover, the project's additional outdoor lighting and glare is controlled and limits light pollution to the project site or directly around the light source and will not contribute to a cumulative impact. Therefore, compliance with the Code, in combination with the outdoor lighting and glare controls listed above ensure that the project will not create a significant new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area, on a project or cumulative level.

**II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES** -- In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:

- a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** Small areas to the east and south of the project area, within a radius of one mile, has land designated as Unique Farmland. Another area, further to the west and southwest contains Prime Farmlands. As a result, the proposed project was reviewed by Department of Planning and Land Use agricultural analyst, Daniella Rosenberg and was determined not to have significant adverse project or cumulative level impacts related to the conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use for the following reasons: The current

project site is vacant lands with steep slopes and native vegetation; no agriculture has ever been done within the 40-acre parcel and the County of San Diego maps show that there is no Prime Farmland, no Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide importance within the boundary of the project.. Therefore, no potentially significant project or cumulative level conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use will occur as a result of this project.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project site is zoned A70 – Limited Agriculture, which is not considered to be an agricultural zone. Additionally, the project site's land is not under a Williamson Act Contract. Therefore, the project does not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract.

c) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** Small areas to the east and south of the project area, within a radius of one mile, have land designated as Unique Farmland. Another area, further to the west and southwest contains Prime Farmlands. As a result, the proposed project was reviewed by Department of Planning and Land Use agricultural analyst, Daniella Rosenberg and was determined not to have significant adverse project or cumulative level impacts related to the conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use for the following reasons: The current project site is vacant lands with steep slopes and native vegetation; no agriculture has ever been done within the 40-acre parcel and the County of San Diego maps show that there is no Prime Farmland, no Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide importance within the boundary of the project. The proposed pad for parcel 3 may be impacted by agricultural activities as it will be within 100 feet of the eastern boundary, which is a neighboring property that does contains an avocado orchard. In addition, the proposed use does not involve an incompatible use such as a school and is not adjacent to any potentially incompatible agricultural use. Therefore, no potentially significant project or cumulative level conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use will occur as a result of this project.

**III. AIR QUALITY** -- Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:

- a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the San Diego Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS) or applicable portions of the State Implementation Plan (SIP)?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** Operation of the project will not result in emissions of significant quantities of criteria pollutants listed in the California Ambient Air Quality Standards or toxic air contaminants as identified by the California Air Resources Board. Therefore, the project will not conflict or obstruct with the implementation of the RAQS nor the SIP on a project or cumulative level.

- b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

In general, air quality impacts from land use projects are the result of emissions from motor vehicles, and from short-term construction activities associated with such projects. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) has established screening-level criteria for all new source review (NSR) in APCD Rule 20.2. For CEQA purposes, these screening-level criteria can be used as numeric methods to demonstrate that a project's total emissions (e.g. stationary and fugitive emissions, as well as emissions from mobile sources) would not result in a significant impact to air quality. Since APCD does not have screening-level criteria for emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the use of the screening level for reactive organic compounds (ROC) from the CEQA Air Quality Handbook for the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), which has stricter standards for emissions of ROCs/VOCs than San Diego's, is appropriate. However, the eastern portions of the county have atmospheric conditions that are characteristic of the Southeast Desert Air Basin (SEDAB). SEDAB is not classified as an extreme non-attainment area for ozone and therefore has a less restrictive screening-level. Projects located in the eastern portions of the County can use the SEDAB screening-level threshold for VOCs.

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project proposes to construct three single-family homes on approximately 40 acres of vacant, mountainous land. It is proposed to cut and fill approximately 16,500 cubic yards of soil. However, grading operations associated with the construction of the project would be subject to County of San Diego Grading Ordinance, which requires the implementation of dust control measures.

Emissions from the construction phase would be minimal and localized, resulting in pollutant emissions below the screening-level criteria established by SDAPCD Rule 20.2 and by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) CEQA Air Quality Handbook section 6.2 and 6.3. In addition, the vehicle trips generated from the project will result in 24 Average Daily Trips (ADTs). According to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District CEQA Guidelines for Assessing the Air Quality Impacts of Projects and Plans, projects that generate less than 2,000 ADT are below the Screening-Level Criteria established by SDAPCD Rule 20.2 and by the SCAQMD CEQA Air Quality Handbook section 6.2 and 6.3 for criteria pollutants. As such, the project will not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation.

- c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

San Diego County is presently in non-attainment for the 1-hour concentrations under the California Ambient Air Quality Standard (CAAQS) for Ozone ( $O_3$ ). San Diego County is also presently in non-attainment for the annual geometric mean and for the 24-hour concentrations of Particulate Matter less than or equal to 10 microns ( $PM_{10}$ ) under the CAAQS.  $O_3$  is formed when volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides ( $NO_x$ ) react in the presence of sunlight. VOC sources include any source that burns fuels (e.g., gasoline, natural gas, wood, oil); solvents; petroleum processing and storage; and pesticides. Sources of  $PM_{10}$  in both urban and rural areas include: motor vehicles, wood burning stoves and fireplaces, dust from construction, landfills, agriculture, wildfires, brush/waste burning, and industrial sources of windblown dust from open lands.

**Less Than Significant Impact:** Air quality emissions associated with the project include emissions of  $PM_{10}$ ,  $NO_x$  and VOCs from construction/grading activities, and VOCs as the result of increase of traffic from operations at the facility. However, grading operations associated with the construction of the project would be subject to County of San Diego Grading Ordinance, which requires the implementation of dust control measures. Emissions from the construction phase would be minimal and localized, resulting in  $PM_{10}$  and VOC emissions below the screening-level criteria established by SDAPCD Rule 20.2 and by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) CEQA air quality handbook section 6.2 and 6.3. The vehicle trips generated from the project will result in 24 Average Daily Trips (ADTs). According to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District CEQA Guidelines for Assessing the Air Quality Impacts of Projects and Plans, projects that generate less than 2,000 ADT are below the Screening-Level Criteria established by SDAPCD Rule 20.2 and by the SCAQMD CEQA air quality handbook section 6.2 and 6.3 for VOCs and  $PM_{10}$ .

In addition, a list of past, present and future projects within the surrounding area were evaluated and none of these projects emit significant amounts of criteria pollutants. Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered. The proposed project as well as the past, present and future projects within the surrounding area, have emissions below the screening-level criteria established by SDAPCD Rule 20.2 and by the SCAQMD CEQA air quality handbook section 6.2 and 6.3, therefore, the construction and operational emissions associated with the proposed project are not expected to create a cumulatively considerable impact nor a considerable net increase of PM<sub>10</sub>, or any O<sub>3</sub> precursors.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** Based on a site visit conducted by Gail Wright on July 21, 2004, no sensitive receptors were identified within a quarter-mile (the radius determined by the SCAQMD in which the dilution of pollutants is typically significant) of the proposed project. Furthermore, no emissions of air pollutants are associated with the project. As such, the project will not expose sensitive populations to excessive levels of air pollutants.

e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project, consisting of three single-family residences, would not produce objectionable odors. However, the property directly to the east contains an avocado orchard which could produce objectionable odors resulting from agricultural spraying. However, given the location of the project and the nature of the odors, these impacts are not expected to affect a substantial number of people for the following reasons: The proposed pad for a single-family residence on parcel 3 will be separated by approximately 100 feet from the neighboring avocado orchard. As such, impacts as a result of odors effecting the proposed project will be less than significant... Moreover, the affects of objectionable odors are localized to the immediate surrounding area and will not contribute to a cumulatively considerable odor. A list of past, present and future projects within the surrounding area were evaluated and none of these projects create objectionable odors. Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered.

**IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES** -- Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or

regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                    |

**Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:** Based on a Biological Report (Pacific Southwest Biological Services, January 29, 2007), the site supports the following habitats considered sensitive in San Diego County: 37.23 acres of granitic southern mixed chaparral and 1.20 acres (1.06 acres on-site and 0.14 acre off-site) of Diegan coastal sage scrub.

One sensitive plant species and three sensitive wildlife species were detected during field surveys: three individuals of summer holly (*Comarostaphylos diversifolia* ssp. *diversifolia*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus bennettii*). No protocol California gnatcatcher surveys were conducted because the majority of the site is composed of granitic southern mixed chaparral, with three relatively small patches of Diegan coastal sage scrub. There will be direct impacts to the summer holly and potential impacts to sensitive wildlife species due to this project, but the site does not contain regionally important populations.

Potentially significant impacts to sensitive habitat are estimated to include up to 29.80 acres of granitic southern mixed chaparral and 1.04 acres of Diegan coastal sage scrub. These impacts will be mitigated with the off-site purchase of 14.90 acres of granitic southern mixed chaparral and 2.08 acres of Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat credits. In addition, 7.43 acres of granitic southern mixed chaparral and 0.16 acre of Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat will be placed in on-site open space. Fencing, signage and a 100-foot Limited Building Zone will be placed between the proposed house on Parcel 3 and the on-site open space. To minimize potential impacts to sensitive avian species, no brushing, clearing or grading will occur during migratory bird breeding season (February 15<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>) in the granitic southern mixed chaparral or Diegan coastal sage scrub and no trees will be removed during the breeding season for tree-nesting raptors (January 15<sup>th</sup> July 15<sup>th</sup>).

County staff has reviewed past, present, and probable future projects in the Merriam Mountain area as listed in Section XVII(b), and has determined that the cumulative loss of upland habitats such as granitic southern mixed chaparral and Diegan coastal sage scrub in Merriam Mountain area is significant and will contribute to 2.8 percent of the cumulative loss of chaparral habitat and a 0.4 percent loss of Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat. However, this project's contribution to the cumulative habitat loss will be less than cumulatively considerable upon implementation of the following mitigation measures: Prior to any habitat impacts, 14.90 acres of granitic southern mixed chaparral and 2.08 acres of Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat will be purchased off-site within the Northern Foothills Ecoregion or the closest available location, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Land Use. In addition, approximately, 0.16

acre of Diegan coastal sage scrub and 7.43 acres of granitic southern mixed chaparral will be set aside in an on-site biological open space easement, but is considered impact neutral. The purchase of off-site habitat within a larger preserved habitat area will reduce this project's contribution to cumulative biological impacts by contributing to the development of large, biologically viable areas that support candidate, sensitive, or special status species.

- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact

☐ Less than Significant Impact

☒ Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated

☐ No Impact

**Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:** The site contains no riparian habitat. However, the site supports granitic southern mixed chaparral and Diegan coastal sage scrub which are recognized as sensitive natural communities by the County, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The habitat on-site is considered to be of low to moderate value for conservation efforts. This determination is based on the findings that the habitats on-site are surrounded by existing agricultural land use to the east and by residential development to the west and south. In addition, proposed land development on Merriam Mountain will further diminish the biological value and continuity of the existing granitic southern mixed chaparral and Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat.

The project will impact 29.80 acres of granitic southern mixed chaparral and will mitigate for 14.90 acres in an off-site mitigation bank. In addition the project will also impact a small amount of coastal sage scrub, which is regulated under the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub NCCP Process Guidelines. The loss of 1.04 acres of Diegan coastal sage scrub will be mitigated in accordance with the guidelines and will not substantially affect conservation planning efforts in this region.

Moreover, potential cumulative impacts due to the loss of 1.04 acres of coastal sage scrub would also be adequately mitigated by the off-site purchase of Diegan coastal sage scrub habitat credit in a mitigation bank approved by the California Department of Fish & Game, located in the Northern Foothills Ecoregion. This is because the impact has been analyzed in accordance with the Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub NCCP Process Guidelines and the County of San Diego's Habitat Loss Permit Ordinance 8365. The impacts from the Pizzuto project represent 0.03 percent of the County's take allowance for coastal sage scrub. The proposed loss of coastal sage scrub will take place in an area where the habitat will be isolated do to existing developments to the west, south, and east and the proposed developments on Merriam Mountain to the north and not near an NCCP focus area. The proposed off-site mitigation for coastal sage scrub will prevent project impacts to biological resources from becoming cumulatively considerable.

- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact
<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact

**No Impact:** The proposed project site does not contain any wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, stream, lake, river or water of the U.S., that could potentially be impacted through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, diversion or obstruction by the proposed development. Therefore, no direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts will occur to wetlands defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act in which the Army Corps of Engineers maintains jurisdiction over.

- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact
<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact

**Less than Significant Impact:** The project will impact native vegetation on-site. Based on an analysis of the County's Geographic Information System (GIS) records, the County's Comprehensive Matrix of Sensitive Species, site photos, and a Biological Resources Report (Pacific Southwest Biological Services, 2007), staff biologist has determined that the site's biological value is limited by surrounding agriculture, residential uses, and its setting near proposed development projects on Merriam Mountain. Although the site's southeastern portion will be set aside as on-site open space, the configuration of the project site and surrounding agricultural and residential uses precludes this site from functioning as a regional wildlife linkage or corridor. From a local perspective this property likely supports local wildlife movement along the existing ridgelines and slopes with wildlife using the rocky terrain for protection and cover. However this habitat is subject to existing edge effects from nearby developments and existing access and perimeter roads. Based on all the evidence in the record, the site does not have potential to support the movement of native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, native wildlife nursery sites.

- e) Conflict with the provisions of any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan, other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan or any other local policies or ordinances that protect biological resources?



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                    |

**Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated:** Refer to the attached Ordinance Compliance Checklist dated October 29, 2008 for further information on consistency with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan, other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan, including, Habitat Management Plans (HMP) Special Area Management Plans (SAMP) or any other local policies or ordinances that protect biological resources including the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), Biological Mitigation Ordinance, Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO), Habitat Loss Permit (HLP).

**V. CULTURAL RESOURCES** -- Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in 15064.5?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** Based on an analysis of records and a survey of the property by a County of San Diego certified archaeologist Dennis Gallegos on November 23, 2004, it has been determined that there are no impacts to historical resources because they do not occur within the project site. The results of the survey are provided in a cultural resources report titled, "*Cultural Resource Survey Report for The Pizzuto Subdivision Property San Diego County, California*", prepared by Dennis Gallegos, Project Manager with Gallegos & Associates, and dated November 2004.

The study was conducted in compliance with the County of San Diego (RPO) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines. The literature review identified no previously recorded prehistoric or historic cultural resources within the project. The field survey was negative, identifying no cultural resources within the project area. Given the absence of previously recorded resources and the negative field survey, no additional cultural resources work was recommended.

- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to 15064.5?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** Based on an analysis of records and a survey of the property by a County of San Diego certified archaeologist Dennis Gallegos on November 23, 2004, it has

been determined that there are no impacts to historical resources because they do not occur within the project site. The results of the survey are provided in a cultural resources report titled, "*Cultural Resource Survey Report for The Pizzuto Subdivision Property San Diego County, California*", prepared by Dennis Gallegos, Project Manager with Gallegos & Associates, and dated November 2004.

The study was conducted in compliance with the County of San Diego (RPO) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines. The literature review identified no previously recorded prehistoric or historic cultural resources within the project. The field survey was negative, identifying no cultural resources within the project area. Given the absence of previously recorded resources and the negative field survey, no additional cultural resources work was recommended.

- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** A review of the paleontological maps provided by the San Diego Museum of Natural History indicates that the project is located on igneous rock and has no potential for producing fossil remains. Additionally, based on a site visit by Gail Wright on February 11, 2005, no known unique geologic features were identified on the property or in the immediate vicinity.

- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** Based on an analysis of records and a survey of the property by a County of San Diego certified archaeologist Dennis Gallegos on November 23, 2004, it has been determined that there are no impacts to historical resources because they do not occur within the project site. The results of the survey are provided in a cultural resources report titled, "*Cultural Resource Survey Report for The Pizzuto Subdivision Property San Diego County, California*", prepared by Dennis Gallegos, Project Manager with Gallegos & Associates, and dated November 2004.

The study was conducted in compliance with the County of San Diego (RPO) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines. The literature review identified no previously recorded prehistoric or historic cultural resources within the project. The field survey was negative, identifying no cultural resources within the project area. Given the absence of previously recorded resources and the negative field survey, no additional cultural resources work was recommended.

**VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS** -- Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

- i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project is not located in a fault rupture hazard zone identified by the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Special Publication 42, and Revised 1997, Fault-Rupture Hazards Zones in California. Also, staff geologist Laura Maghsoudlou has reviewed the project and has concluded that no other substantial evidence of recent (Holocene) fault activity is present within the project site. Therefore, there will be no impact from the exposure of people or structures to adverse effects from a known hazard zone as a result of this project.

- ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The Uniform Building Code (UBC) and the California Building Code (CBC) classifies all San Diego County with the highest seismic zone criteria, Zone 4. However, the project is not located within 5 kilometers of the centerline of a known active-fault zone as defined within the Uniform Building Code's Maps of Known Active Fault Near-Source Zones in California. In addition, the project will have to conform to the Seismic Requirements -- Chapter 16 Section 162- *Earthquake Design* as outlined within the California Building Code. Section 162 requires a soils compaction report with proposed foundation recommendations to be approved by a County Structural Engineer before the issuance of a building or grading permit. Therefore, there will be no impact from the exposure of people or structures to potential adverse effects from strong seismic ground shaking as a result of this project.

- iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The geology of the project site is identified as Cretaceous Plutonic. This geologic environment is not susceptible to ground failure from seismic activity. In addition, the site is not underlain by poor artificial fill or located within a floodplain. Therefore, there will be no impact from the exposure of people to adverse effects from a known area susceptible to ground failure.

iv. Landslides?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The site is located within a Landslide Susceptibility Area as identified in the County Guidelines for Determining Significance – Geologic Hazards. A Geotechnical Report to evaluate landslide susceptibility was prepared by Vinje & Middleton Engineering, on June 18, 2008. Staff has reviewed and determined that the geologic hazards that would affect, or be caused by, the project are less than significant. Therefore, there will be no potentially significant impact from the exposure of people or structures to adverse effects from landslides.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** According to the Soil Survey of San Diego County, the soils on-site are identified as Cieneba-Fallbrook (CnG2 and CnE2), and Visalia Sandy Loam (VaB) that has a soil erodibility rating of “severe” as indicated by the Soil Survey for the San Diego Area, prepared by the US Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation and Forest Service dated December 1973. However, the project will not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil for the following reasons:

- The project will not result in unprotected erodible soils; will not alter existing drainage patterns; is not located in a floodplain, wetland, or significant drainage feature; and will not develop steep slopes.
- The project has prepared a Storm water Management Plan prepared by BHA, Inc. submitted July 11, 2007. The plan includes the following Best Management Practices to ensure sediment does not erode from the project site: Silt fence, fiber rolls, street sweeping and vacuuming, storm drain inlet protection, stockpile management, solid waste management, stabilized construction entrance/exit, vehicle and equipment maintenance, desilting basin, gravel bag berm, material delivery and storage, spill prevention and control, concrete waste management, water conservation practices, paving and grinding operations, any minor slopes created incidental to construction and not subject to a major or minor grading permit shall be protected by covering with plastic or tarp prior to a rain event, and

shall have vegetative cover reestablished within 180 days of completion of the slope and prior to final building approval.

- The project involves grading. However, the project is required to comply with the San Diego County Code of Regulations, Title 8, Zoning and Land Use Regulations, Division 7, Sections 87.414 (DRAINAGE - EROSION PREVENTION) and 87.417 (PLANTING). Compliance with these regulations minimizes the potential for water and wind erosion.

Due to these factors, it has been found that the project will not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil on a project level.

In addition, the project will not contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact because all the of past, present and future projects included on the list of projects that involve grading or land disturbance are required to follow the requirements of the San Diego County Code of Regulations, Title 8, Zoning and Land Use Regulations, Division 7, Sections 87.414 (DRAINAGE - EROSION PREVENTION) and 87.417 (PLANTING); Order 2001-01 (NPDES No. CAS 0108758), adopted by the San Diego Region RWQCB on February 21, 2001; County Watershed Protection, Storm Water Management, and Discharge Control Ordinance (WPO) (Ord. No. 9424); and County Storm water Standards Manual adopted on February 20, 2002, and amended January 10, 2003 (Ordinance No. 9426). Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered.

- c) Will the project produce unstable geological conditions that will result in adverse impacts resulting from landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project will result in site disturbance and grading of 32,000 cubic yards of material. The proposed project is consistent with the geological formations underlying the site. For further information refer to VI Geology and Soils, Question a., i-iv listed above.

- d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project does not contain expansive soils as defined by Table 18-I-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994). The soils on-site are Cieneba-Fallbrook (CnG2 and CnE2), and Visalia Sandy Loam (VaB). These soils have a shrink-swell behavior of low

and represent no substantial risks to life or property. Therefore, the project will not create a substantial risk to life or property. This was confirmed by staff review of the Soil Survey for the San Diego Area, prepared by the US Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation and Forest Service dated December 1973.

- e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project proposes to discharge domestic waste to on-site wastewater systems (OSWS), also known as septic systems. The project involves three standard subsurface septic systems located next to each pad. Discharged wastewater must conform to the Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB) applicable standards, including the Regional Basin Plan and the California Water Code. California Water Code Section 13282 allows RWQCBs to authorize a local public agency to issue permits for OSWS "to ensure that systems are adequately designed, located, sized, spaced, constructed and maintained." The RWQCBs with jurisdiction over San Diego County have authorized the County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health (DEH) to issue certain OSWS permits throughout the County and within the incorporated cities. DEH has reviewed the OSWS lay-out for the project pursuant to DEH, Land and Water Quality Division's, "On-site Wastewater Systems: Permitting Process and Design Criteria." DEH approved the project's OSWS on 06/08/2004. Therefore, the project has soils capable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems as determined by the authorized, local public agency. In addition, the project will comply with the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances, Title 6, Div. 8, Chap. 3, Septic Tanks and Seepage Pits.

**VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** -- Would the project:

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials or wastes?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project will not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment because it does not propose the storage, use, transport, emission, or disposal of Hazardous Substances, nor are Hazardous Substances proposed or currently in use in the immediate vicinity.

- b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project will not contain, handle, or store any potential sources of chemicals or compounds that would present a significant risk of accidental explosion or release of hazardous substances.

- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school. Therefore, the project will not have any effect on an existing or proposed school.

- d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project is not located on a site listed in the State of California Hazardous Waste and Substances sites list compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.

- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project is not located within a Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) for airports; or within two miles of a public airport. Also, the project does not propose construction of any structure equal to or greater than 150 feet in height, constituting a safety hazard to aircraft and/or operations from an airport or heliport. Therefore, the project will not constitute a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project is not within one mile of a private airstrip. As a result, the project will not constitute a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.

- g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

The following sections summarize the project's consistency with applicable emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans.

i. OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY PLAN:

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The Operational Area Emergency Plan is a framework document that provides direction to local jurisdictions to develop specific operational area of San Diego County. It provides guidance for emergency planning and requires subsequent plans to be established by each jurisdiction that has responsibilities in a disaster situation. The project will not interfere with this plan because it will not prohibit subsequent plans from being established.

ii. SAN DIEGO COUNTY NUCLEAR POWER STATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

**No Impact:** The San Diego County Nuclear Power Station Emergency Response Plan will not be interfered with by the project due to the location of the project, plant and the specific requirements of the plan. The emergency plan for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station includes an emergency planning zone within a 10-mile radius. All land area within 10 miles of the plant is not within the jurisdiction of the unincorporated County and as such a



project in the unincorporated area is not expected to interfere with any response or evacuation.

iii. OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY ELEMENT

**No Impact:** The Oil Spill Contingency Element will not be interfered with because the project is not located along the coastal zone or coastline.

iv. EMERGENCY WATER CONTINGENCIES ANNEX AND ENERGY SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN

**No Impact:** The Emergency Water Contingencies Annex and Energy Shortage Response Plan will not be interfered with because the project does not propose altering major water or energy supply infrastructure, such as the California Aqueduct.

v. DAM EVACUATION PLAN

**No Impact:** The Dam Evacuation Plan for will not be interfered with because the project is located outside a dam inundation zone.

- h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The proposed project is adjacent to wildlands that have the potential to support wildland fires. However, the project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires because the project will comply with the regulations relating to emergency access, water supply, and defensible space specified in the Consolidated Fire Code for the 17 Fire Protection Districts in San Diego County and Appendix II-A, as adopted and amended by the local fire protection district. Implementation of these fire safety standards will occur during the Tentative Map, Tentative Parcel Map, or building permit process. Also, a Fire Service Availability Letter and conditions, dated July 9, 2004, have been received from the Deer Springs Fire Protection District. The conditions from the Deer Springs Fire Protection District include: A fuel break of 100 feet brush and weed clearance on all sides of structures, to be maintained throughout the year; off-site roadway (from Deer Springs Road to project property line) shall be graded to a width of 28-feet with an improved width of 24-feet; driveways shall be a minimum width of 16-feet; cul-de-sacs shall have a minimum turning radius of 36-feet; driveways/roadways shall not exceed 20% grade; any driveways/roadways exceeding 15% grade shall have a surface of portland cement concrete with a rake finish, perpendicular to the direction of travel; existing fire hydrants shall meet the minimum eight inch mains with six inch riser, with one 4-inch and one 2 ½ -inch outlets. Therefore, based on the review of the project by

County staff, through compliance with the Consolidated Fire Code and Appendix II-A and through compliance with the Deer Springs Fire Protection District's conditions, it is not anticipated that the project will expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving hazardous wildland fires. Moreover, the project will not contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact, because all past, present and future projects in the surrounding area required to comply with the Consolidated Fire Code and Appendix II-A.

- i) Expose people to significant risk of injury or death involving vectors, including mosquitoes, rats or flies?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project does not involve or support uses that allow water to stand for a period of 72 hours (3 days) or more (e.g. lagoons, agricultural irrigation ponds). Also, the project does not involve or support uses that will produce or collect animal waste, such as equestrian facilities, agricultural operations (chicken coops, dairies etc.), solid waste facility or other similar uses. Moreover, based on a site visit conducted by Gail Wright on July 21, 2004, there are none of these uses on adjacent properties. Therefore, the project will not expose people to significant risk of injury or death involving vectors.

**VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY** -- Would the project:

- a) Violate any waste discharge requirements?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project does not propose waste discharges that require waste discharge requirement permits, NPDES permits, or water quality certification from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB). In addition, the project does not propose any known sources of polluted runoff or land use activities that would require special site design considerations, source control Best Management Practices (BMPs) or treatment control BMPs, under the San Diego Municipal Storm Water Permit (SDRWQCB Order No. 2001-01).

- b) Is the project tributary to an already impaired water body, as listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list? If so, could the project result in an increase in any pollutant for which the water body is already impaired?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project lies in the Twin Oaks hydrologic subarea, within the Carlsbad hydrologic unit. According to the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list, July 2003, portions of this watershed, along the coast of the Pacific Ocean at Buena Vista Lagoon, Escondido Creek, Loma Alta Slough, and San Marcos are impaired for coliform bacteria; Agua Hedionda Lagoon is impaired for coliform bacteria and sedimentation; Buena Vista Lagoon is impaired for coliform bacteria, nutrients, and sedimentation; Loma Alta Slough is impaired for eutrophication and coliform bacteria; San Elijo Lagoon is impaired for eutrophication, coliform bacteria and sedimentation. Constituents of concern in the Carlsbad watershed include coliform bacteria, nutrients, sediment, trace metals, and toxics.

The project proposes the following activities that are associated with these pollutants: grading and construction of single family dwellings. However, the following site design measures and/or source control BMP's and/or treatment control BMP's will be employed such that potential pollutants will be reduced in any runoff to the maximum extent practicable so as not to increase the level of these pollutants in receiving waters: Silt fence, fiber rolls, street sweeping and vacuuming, storm drain inlet protection, stockpile management, solid waste management, stabilized construction entrance/exit, vehicle and equipment maintenance, desilting basin, gravel bag berm, material delivery and storage, spill prevention and control, concrete waste management, water conservation practices, paving and grinding operations, any minor slopes created incidental to construction and not subject to a major or minor grading permit shall be protected by covering with plastic or tarp prior to a rain event, and shall have vegetative cover reestablished within 180 days of completion of the slope and prior to final building approval.

The proposed BMP's are consistent with regional surface water and storm water planning and permitting process that has been established to improve the overall water quality in County watersheds. As a result the project will not contribute to a cumulative impact to an already impaired water body, as listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d). Regional surface water and storm water permitting regulation for County of San Diego, Incorporated Cities of San Diego County, and San Diego Unified Port District includes the following: Order 2001-01 (NPDES No. CAS 0108758), adopted by the San Diego Region RWQCB on February 21, 2001; County Watershed Protection, Storm Water Management, and Discharge Control Ordinance (WPO) (Ord. No. 9424); County Storm water Standards Manual adopted on February 20, 2002, and amended January 10, 2003 (Ordinance No. 9426). The stated purposes of these ordinances are to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the County of San Diego residents; to protect water resources and to improve water quality; to cause the use of management practices by the County and its citizens that will reduce the adverse effects of polluted runoff discharges on waters of the state; to secure benefits from the use of storm water as a resource; and to ensure the County is compliant with applicable state and federal laws. Ordinance No. 9424 (WPO) has discharge prohibitions, and requirements that vary depending on type of land use activity and location in the County. Ordinance No. 9426 is Appendix A of Ordinance No. 9424 (WPO) and sets out in more detail, by project category, what Dischargers must do to comply with the Ordinance and to receive permits for projects and activities that are subject to the Ordinance. Collectively, these

regulations establish standards for projects to follow which intend to improve water quality from headwaters to the deltas of each watershed in the County. Each project subject to WPO is required to prepare a Stormwater Management Plan that details a project's pollutant discharge contribution to a given watershed and propose BMPs or design measures to mitigate any impacts that may occur in the watershed.

- c) Could the proposed project cause or contribute to an exceedance of applicable surface or groundwater receiving water quality objectives or degradation of beneficial uses?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact

☒ Less than Significant Impact

☐ Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated

☐ No Impact

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The Regional Water Quality Control Board has designated water quality objectives for waters of the San Diego Region as outlined in Chapter 3 of the Water Quality Control Plan (Plan). The water quality objectives are necessary to protect the existing and potential beneficial uses of each hydrologic unit as described in Chapter 2 of the Plan.

The project lies in the Twin Oaks hydrologic subarea, within the Carlsbad hydrologic unit that has the following existing and potential beneficial uses for inland surface waters, coastal waters, reservoirs and lakes, and ground water: municipal and domestic supply; agricultural supply; industrial service supply; hydropower generation; contact water recreation; non-contact water recreation; warm freshwater habitat; cold freshwater habitat; wildlife habitat; commercial and sport fishing; aquaculture; estuarine habitat; marine habitat; migration of aquatic organisms; shellfish harvesting; and, rare, threatened, or endangered species habitat.

The project proposes the following potential sources of polluted runoff: grading and construction of single family dwellings. However, the following site design measures and/or source control BMP's and/or treatment control BMP's will be employed to reduce potential pollutants in runoff to the maximum extent practicable, such that the proposed project will not cause or contribute to an exceedance of applicable surface or groundwater receiving water quality objectives or degradation of beneficial uses: Silt fence, fiber rolls, street sweeping and vacuuming, storm drain inlet protection, stockpile management, solid waste management, stabilized construction entrance/exit, vehicle and equipment maintenance, desilting basin, gravel bag berm, material delivery and storage, spill prevention and control, concrete waste management, water conservation practices, paving and grinding operations, any minor slopes created incidental to construction and not subject to a major or minor grading permit shall be protected by covering with plastic or tarp prior to a rain event, and shall have vegetative cover reestablished within 180 days of completion of the slope and prior to final building approval.

In addition, the proposed BMP's are consistent with regional surface water, storm water and groundwater planning and permitting process that has been established to improve

the overall water quality in County watersheds. As a result, the project will not contribute to a cumulatively considerable exceedance of applicable surface or groundwater receiving water quality objectives or degradation of beneficial uses. Refer to Section VIII., Hydrology and Water Quality, Question b, for more information on regional surface water and storm water planning and permitting process.

- d) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact

☐ Less than Significant Impact

☐ Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated

☒ No Impact

**No Impact:** The project will obtain its water supply from the Vallecitos Water District that obtains water from surface reservoirs or other imported water source. The project will not use any groundwater for any purpose, including irrigation, domestic or commercial demands. In addition, the project does not involve operations that would interfere substantially with groundwater recharge including, but not limited to the following: the project does not involve regional diversion of water to another groundwater basin; or diversion or channelization of a stream course or waterway with impervious layers, such as concrete lining or culverts, for substantial distances (e.g. ¼ mile). These activities and operations can substantially affect rates of groundwater recharge. Therefore, no impact to groundwater resources is anticipated.

- e) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact

☒ Less than Significant Impact

☐ Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated

☐ No Impact

**Less Than Significant** DPW staff has reviewed the updated Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) prepared by BHA, Inc. submitted 09-19-08. All previous comments have been addressed. The SWMP document is substantially complete and complies with the San Diego County Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) and Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO) requirements for a Stormwater Management Plan.

- f) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** DPW staff has reviewed the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), Preliminary Drainage Study, and Preliminary Grading Plan prepared by BHA, Inc. All previous comments have been addressed. The proposed project will not significantly alter established drainage patterns & not significantly increase the amount of runoff for the following reasons:

- a. Drainage will be conveyed to either natural drainage channels or approved drainage facilities.
- b. The project will not increase water surface elevation in a watercourse with a watershed equal to or greater one square mile by 1' or more in height.
- c. The project will not increase surface runoff exiting the project site equal to or greater than two percent additional cubic feet/second.

Therefore, the project will not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site. Moreover, the project will not contribute to a cumulatively considerable alteration or a drainage pattern or increase in the rate or amount of runoff, because the project will substantially increase water surface elevation or runoff exiting the site, as detailed above.

- g) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** DPW staff has reviewed the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), Preliminary Drainage Study, and Preliminary Grading Plan prepared by BHA, Inc. All previous comments have been addressed. The project does not propose to create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems.

- h) Provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project proposes the following potential sources of polluted runoff: construction activities such as grading and building of driveways. However, the following site design measures and/or source control BMPs and/or treatment control BMPs will be employed such that potential pollutants will be reduced in runoff to the maximum extent practicable: Silt fence, fiber rolls, street sweeping and vacuuming, storm drain inlet protection, stockpile management, solid waste management, stabilized construction entrance/exit, vehicle and equipment maintenance, desilting basin, gravel bag berm, material delivery and storage, spill prevention and control, concrete waste management, water conservation practices, paving and grinding operations, any minor slopes created incidental to construction and not subject to a major or minor grading permit shall be protected by covering with plastic or tarp prior to a rain event, and shall have vegetative cover reestablished within 180 days of completion of the slope and prior to final building approval. Refer to VIII Hydrology and Water Quality Questions a, b, c, for further information.

- i) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map, including County Floodplain Maps?

<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact
<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact

**Less Than Significant Impact:** DPW staff has reviewed the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), Preliminary Drainage Study, and Preliminary Grading Plan prepared by BHA, Inc. All previous comments have been addressed. No housing is proposed to be placed in any FEMA mapped floodplains, County-mapped floodplains or drainages with a watershed greater than 25 acres; therefore, no impact will occur.

- j) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact
<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	<input type="checkbox"/> No Impact

**Less Than Significant Impact:** DPW staff has reviewed the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), Preliminary Drainage Study, and Preliminary Grading Plan prepared by BHA, Inc. All previous comments have been addressed. No structures are proposed to be placed in any 100-year flood hazard areas; therefore, no impact will occur.

- k) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** DPW staff has reviewed the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), Preliminary Drainage Study, and Preliminary Grading Plan prepared by BHA, Inc. The project site lies outside any identified special flood hazard area that includes a mapped dam inundation area for a major dam/reservoir within San Diego County. In addition, the project is not located immediately downstream of a minor dam that could potentially flood the property. Therefore, the project will not expose people to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.

l) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

Discussion/Explanation:

i. SEICHE

**No Impact:** The project site is not located along the shoreline of a lake or reservoir; therefore, could not be inundated by a seiche.

ii. TSUNAMI

**No Impact:** The project site is located more than a mile from the coast; therefore, in the event of a tsunami, would not be inundated.

iii. MUDFLOW

**No Impact:** Mudflow is type of landslide. The site is not located within a landslide susceptibility zone. Also, staff geologist Laura Maghsoudlou has determined that the geologic environment of the project area is not located within an area of potential or pre-existing conditions that could become unstable in the event of seismic activity. In addition, the project does propose land disturbance that will expose soils and the project is not located downstream from exposed soils within a landslide susceptibility zone. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the project will expose people or property to inundation due to a mudflow.

**IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING** -- Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project does not propose the introducing new infrastructure such major roadways or water supply systems, or utilities to the area. Therefore, the proposed project will not significantly disrupt or divide the established community.

- b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The proposed project is subject to the Regional Land Use Element Policy, 1.3, Estate Development Area and General Plan Land Use Designation (18) Multiple Rural Use, one dwelling unit per 4, 8 or 20 acres, depending on the average slope of the proposed parcels. The General Plan requires minimum gross parcel sizes of 4 acres and not more than 0.25 dwelling units per acre. The proposed project has gross parcel sizes and density that are consistent with the General Plan. The project is subject to the policies of the North County Metropolitan Subregional Plan, and the Twin Oaks Valley Community Sponsor Group. Open Space will be granted for Biology and Steep Slopes. The proposed project is consistent with the policies of the North County Metropolitan Subregional Plan, and the Twin Oaks Valley Community Sponsor Group. The current zone is A70, Limited Agriculture, which requires a net minimum lot size of 4 acres. The proposed project is consistent with the Zoning Ordinance requirements for minimum lot size.

**X. MINERAL RESOURCES** -- Would the project:

- a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** Although the project site has been classified by the California Department of Conservation – Division of Mines and Geology (Update of Mineral Land Classification: Aggregate Materials in the Western San Diego Production-Consumption Region, 1997) as an area of undetermined mineral resources MRZ-3, staff geologist Laura Maghsoudlou has reviewed the site's geologic environment and has determined that the site is not located within an alluvial river valley or underlain by coastal marine/non-marine granular deposits. Therefore, no potentially significant loss of availability of a known mineral resource of value to the region and the residents of the state will occur as a result of this project. Moreover, if the resources are not considered significant mineral deposits, loss of these resources cannot contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact.

- b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project site is zoned A70, Limited Agriculture, which is not considered to be an Extractive Use Zone (S-82) nor does it have an Impact Sensitive Land Use Designation (24) with an Extractive Land Use Overlay (25) (County Land Use Element, 2000). Therefore, no potentially significant loss of availability of a known mineral resource of locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan will occur as a result of this project.

**XI. NOISE** -- Would the project result in:

- a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project is three-lot residential minor subdivision and will be occupied by residents. Based on a site visit completed by Gail Wright on July 21, 2004, the surrounding area supports orchards, scattered rural residential lots and vacant, open space mountains. The project will not expose people to potentially significant noise levels that exceed the allowable limits of the County of San Diego General Plan, County of San Diego Noise Ordinance, and other applicable standards for the following reasons:

**General Plan – Noise Element**

The County of San Diego General Plan, Noise Element, Policy 4b addresses noise sensitive areas and requires an acoustical study to be prepared for any use that may

expose noise sensitive areas to noise in excess of a Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) of 60 decibels (dBA). Moreover, if the project is excess of CNEL 60 dB(A), modifications must be made to the project to reduce noise levels. Noise sensitive areas include residences, hospitals, schools, libraries or similar facilities where quiet is an important attribute. Project implementation is not expected to expose existing or planned noise sensitive areas to road, airport, heliport, railroad, industrial or other noise in excess of the CNEL 60 dB(A). This is based on staff's review of projected County noise contour maps (CNEL 60 dB(A) contours). Therefore, the project will not expose people to potentially significant noise levels that exceed the allowable limits of the County of San Diego General Plan, Noise Element.

Noise Ordinance – Section 36-404

Non-transportation noise generated by the project is not expected to exceed the standards of the County of San Diego Noise Ordinance (Section 36-404) at or beyond the project's property line. The site is zoned A70 that has a one-hour average sound limit of 50dB(A). The adjacent properties are zoned A70 also. Based on review by staff on August 11, 2004 the project's noise levels are not anticipated to impact adjoining properties or exceed County Noise Standards, which is 45dB(A), because the project does not involve any noise producing equipment that would exceed applicable noise levels at the adjoining property line.

Noise Ordinance – Section 36-410

The project will not generate construction noise that may exceed the standards of the County of San Diego Noise Ordinance (Section 36-410). Construction operations will occur only during permitted hours of operation pursuant to Section 36-410. Also, it is not anticipated that the project will operate construction equipment in excess of 75 dB for more than an 8 hours during a 24-hour period.

Finally, the project's conformance to the County of San Diego General Plan (Noise Element, Policy 4b and County of San Diego Noise Ordinance (Section 36-404 and 36.410) ensures the project will not create cumulatively considerable noise impacts, because the project will not exceed the local noise standards for noise sensitive areas; and the project will not exceed the applicable noise level limits at the property line or construction noise limits, derived from State regulation to address human health and quality of life concerns. Therefore, the project will not contribute to a cumulatively considerable exposure of persons or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan, noise ordinance, and applicable standards of other agencies.

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact

☐ Less than Significant Impact

☐ Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

☒ No Impact

**No Impact:** The project does not propose any of the following land uses that can be impacted by groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.

1. Buildings where low ambient vibration is essential for interior operation, including research and manufacturing facilities with special vibration constraints.
2. Residences and buildings where people normally sleep including hotels, hospitals, residences and where low ambient vibration is preferred.
3. Civic and institutional land uses including schools, churches, libraries, other institutions, and quiet office where low ambient vibration is preferred.
4. Concert halls for symphonies or other special use facilities where low ambient vibration is preferred.

Also, the project does not propose any major, new or expanded infrastructure such as mass transit, highways or major roadways or intensive extractive industry that could generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels on-site or in the surrounding area.

- c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project involves the following permanent noise sources that may increase the ambient noise level: vehicles and sound systems. As indicated in the response listed under Section XI Noise, Question a., the project would not expose existing or planned noise sensitive areas in the vicinity to a substantial permanent increase in noise levels that exceed the allowable limits of the County of San Diego General Plan, County of San Diego Noise Ordinance, and other applicable local, State, and Federal noise control. Also, the project is not expected to expose existing or planned noise sensitive areas to noise 10 dB CNEL over existing ambient noise levels based on review of the project by County staff. Studies completed by the Organization of Industry Standards (ISO 362; ISO 1996 1-3; ISO 3095; and ISO 3740-3747) state an increase of 10 dB is perceived as twice as loud and is perceived as a significant increase in the ambient noise level.

The project will not result in cumulatively noise impacts because a list of past, present and future projects within in the vicinity were evaluated. It was determined that the project in combination with a list of past, present and future project would not expose existing or planned noise sensitive areas to noise 10 dB CNEL over existing ambient noise levels. Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered.

- d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project does not involve any uses that may create substantial temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity including but not limited to extractive industry; outdoor commercial or industrial uses that involve crushing, cutting, drilling, grinding, or blasting of raw materials; truck depots, transfer stations or delivery areas; or outdoor sound systems.

Also, general construction noise is not expected to exceed the construction noise limits of the County of San Diego Noise Ordinance (Section 36-410), which are derived from State regulations to address human health and quality of life concerns. Construction operations will occur only during permitted hours of operation pursuant to Section 36-410. Also, it is not anticipated that the project will operate construction equipment in excess of 75 dB for more than an 8 hours during a 24-hour period. Therefore, the project would not result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in existing ambient noise levels in the project vicinity.

- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project is not located within a Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) for airports or within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, the project will not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive airport-related noise levels.

- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project is not located within a one-mile vicinity of a private airstrip; therefore, the project will not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive airport-related noise levels.

**XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING** -- Would the project:

- a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project will not induce substantial population growth in an area because the project does not propose any physical or regulatory change that would remove a restriction to or encourage population growth in an area including, but limited to the following: new or extended infrastructure or public facilities; new commercial or industrial facilities; large-scale residential development; accelerated conversion of homes to commercial or multi-family use; or regulatory changes including General Plan amendments, specific plan amendments, zone reclassifications, sewer or water annexations; or LAFCO annexation actions.

- b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project will not displace existing housing since the site is currently vacant. The addition of three dwelling units will yield a net gain of available housing.

- c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project will not displace a substantial number of people since the site is currently vacant.

**XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES**

- a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

- i. Fire protection?
- ii. Police protection?
- iii. Schools?
- iv. Parks?
- v. Other public facilities?

- ☐ Potentially Significant Impact  
☐ Potentially Significant Unless  
Mitigation Incorporated

- ☐ Less than Significant Impact  
☒ No Impact

**No Impact:** Based on the service availability forms received for the project, the proposed project will not result in the need for significantly altered services or facilities. Service availability forms have been provided which indicate existing services are available to the project from the following agencies/districts: Vallecitos Water District and the Deer Springs Fire Protection District. The project does not involve the construction of new or physically altered governmental facilities including but not limited to fire protection facilities, sheriff facilities, schools, or parks in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance service ratios or objectives for any public services. Therefore, the project will not have an adverse physical effect on the environment because the project does not require new or significantly altered services or facilities to be constructed.

#### **XIV. RECREATION**

- a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

- ☐ Potentially Significant Impact  
☐ Potentially Significant Unless  
Mitigation Incorporated

- ☒ Less than Significant Impact  
☐ No Impact

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project involves a residential minor subdivision that will increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. To avoid substantial physical deterioration of local recreation facilities the project will be required to pay fees or dedicate land for local parks to the County pursuant to the Park Land Dedication Ordinance (PLDO). The Park Land Dedication Ordinance (PLDO) is the mechanism that enables the funding or dedication of local parkland in the County. The PLDO establishes several methods by which developers may satisfy their park requirements. Options include the payment of park fees, the dedication of a public park, the provision of private recreational facilities, or a combination of these methods. PLDO funds must be used for the acquisition, planning, and development of local parkland and recreation facilities. Local parks are intended to serve the recreational needs of the communities in which they are located. The proposed project opted to pay park fees. Therefore, the project meets the requirements set forth by the PLDO for adequate parkland dedication and thereby reducing impacts,

including cumulative impacts to local recreational facilities. The project will not result in significant cumulative impacts, because all past, present and future residential projects are required to comply with the requirements of PLDO. Refer to XVII. Mandatory Findings of Significance for a comprehensive list of the projects considered.

There is an existing surplus of County Regional Parks. Currently, there is over 21,765 acres of regional parkland owned by the County, which far exceeds the General Plan standard of 15 acres per 1,000 population. In addition, there are over one million acres of publicly owned land in San Diego County dedicated to parks or open space including Federal lands, State Parks, special districts, and regional river parks. Due to the extensive surplus of existing publicly owned lands that can be used for recreation the project will not result in substantial physical deterioration of regional recreational facilities or accelerate the deterioration of regional parkland. Moreover, the project will not result any cumulatively considerable deterioration or accelerated deterioration of regional recreation facilities because even with all past, present and future residential projects a significant surplus of regional recreational facilities will remain.

- b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project does not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, the construction or expansion of recreational facilities cannot have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

**XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC** -- Would the project:

- a) Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant:** The proposed project was reviewed by DPW staff, who determined that the proposed project will result in an additional 24 ADT. The addition of 24 ADT will not result in a substantial increase in the number of vehicle trips, volume of capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections in relation to existing conditions. Therefore, the project will not have a significant direct project impact on traffic volume,



which is considered substantial in relation to existing traffic load and capacity of the street system. Also refer to the answer for XV. b. below.

- b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the County congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact

☐ Less than Significant Impact

☒ Potentially Significant Unless  
Mitigation Incorporated

☐ No Impact

**Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigation Incorporated:** The proposed project will result in an additional 24 ADT. The project was reviewed by DPW staff and was determined not to exceed a level of service (LOS) standard at the direct project level. Therefore, the project will not have a significant direct project-level impact on the LOS standards established by the County congestion management agency for designated roads or highways. Cumulative impacts may not be less than significant.

However, the County of San Diego has developed an overall programmatic solution that addresses existing and projected future road deficiencies in the unincorporated portion of San Diego County. This program includes the adoption of a Transportation Impact Fee (TIF) program to fund improvements to roadways necessary to mitigate potential cumulative impacts caused by traffic from future development. This program is based on a summary of projections method contained in an adopted planning document, as referenced in the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15130 (b)(1)(B), which evaluates regional or area wide conditions contributing to cumulative transportation impacts. Based on SANDAG regional growth and land use forecasts, the SANDAG Regional Transportation Model was utilized to analyze projected build-out (year 2030) development conditions on the existing circulation element roadway network throughout the unincorporated area of the County. Based on the results of the traffic modeling, funding necessary to construct transportation facilities that will mitigate cumulative impacts from new development was identified. Existing roadway deficiencies will be corrected through improvement projects funded by other public funding sources, such as TransNet, gas tax, and grants. Potential cumulative impacts to the region's freeways have been addressed in SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). This plan, which considers freeway buildout over the next 30 years, will use funds from TransNet, state, and federal funding to improve freeways to projected level of service objectives in the RTP.

The proposed project generates an additional 24 ADT. These trips will be distributed on circulation element roadways in the unincorporated county that were analyzed by the TIF program, some of which currently or are projected to operate at inadequate levels of service. These project trips therefore contribute to a potential significant cumulative impact and mitigation is required. The potential growth represented by this project was included in the growth projections upon which the TIF program is based. Therefore, payment of the TIF, which will be required at issuance of building permits, in

combination with other components of the program described above, will mitigate potential cumulative traffic impacts to less than significant.

In order to mitigate its incremental contribution to significant cumulative traffic impacts, the proposed project will pay the TIF prior to obtaining building permits.

- c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The proposed project is located outside of an Airport Master Plan Zone and is not adjacent to any public or private airports; therefore, the project will not result in a change in air traffic patterns.

- d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant:** The proposed project will not significantly alter traffic safety on Deer Springs Road or any other public road. A safe and adequate sight distance shall be required at all driveways and intersections to the satisfaction of the Director of the Department of Public Works. Any and all road improvements will be constructed according to the County of San Diego Public and Private Road Standards. Roads used to access the proposed project site shall be to County standards. The proposed project will not place incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment) on existing roadways. Therefore, the proposed project will not significantly increase hazards due to design features or incompatible uses.

- e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant:** The proposed project will not result in inadequate emergency access. The Deer Springs Fire Department and DPLU Fire Marshals have reviewed the proposed project and associated emergency access roadways and have determined that there is adequate emergency fire access proposed. The project is not served by a dead-end road that exceeds the maximum cumulative length permitted by the Consolidated Fire Code for the 17 Fire Protection Districts in San Diego County; therefore, the project has

adequate emergency access. Additionally, roads used will be required to be improved to County standards.

f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The Zoning Ordinance Section 6758 Parking Schedule requires two on-site parking spaces for each dwelling unit. The proposed lots have sufficient area to provide at least two on-site parking spaces consistent with the Zoning Ordinance.

g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant:** The project does not propose any hazards or barriers for pedestrians or bicyclists. Any required improvements will be constructed to maintain existing conditions as it relates to pedestrians and bicyclists.

**XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS** -- Would the project:

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project proposes to discharge domestic waste to on-site wastewater systems (OSWS), also known as septic systems. The project involves three standard subsurface septic systems located on each parcel, adjacent to the proposed pads. Discharged wastewater must conform to the Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB) applicable standards, including the Regional Basin Plan and the California Water Code. California Water Code Section 13282 allows RWQCBs to authorize a local public agency to issue permits for OSWS "to ensure that systems are adequately designed, located, sized, spaced, constructed and maintained." The RWQCBs with jurisdiction over San Diego County have authorized the County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health (DEH) to issue certain OSWS permits throughout the County and within the incorporated cities. DEH has reviewed the OSWS lay-out for the project pursuant to DEH, Land and Water Quality Division's, "On-site Wastewater Systems: Permitting Process and Design Criteria." DEH approved the

project's OSWS on 06/08/2004. Therefore, the project is consistent with the wastewater treatment requirements of the RWQCB as determined by the authorized, local public agency.

- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Impact         |

**No Impact:** The project does not include new or expanded water or wastewater treatment facilities. In addition, the project does not require the construction or expansion of water or wastewater treatment facilities. Based on the service availability forms received, the project will not require construction of new or expanded water treatment facilities. Service availability forms have been provided which indicate adequate water treatment facilities are available to the project from the following agencies/districts: Vallecitos Water District. Therefore, the project will not require any construction of new or expanded facilities, which could cause significant environmental effects.

- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project involves new and expanded storm water drainage facilities. The new and expanded facilities include bio-filtration grassy swales and gravel swales. Refer to the Storm water Management Plan dated September 18, 2008 for more information. However, as outlined in this Environmental Analysis Form Section I-XVII, the new and expanded facilities will not result in adverse physical effect on the environment.

- d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** The project requires water service from the Vallecitos Water District. A Service Availability Letter from the Vallecitos Water District has been

provided, indicating adequate water resources and entitlements are available to serve the requested water resources. Therefore, the project will have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project.

- e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**No Impact:** The proposed project will rely completely on an on-site wastewater system (septic system); therefore, the project will not interfere with any wastewater treatment provider's service capacity.

- f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less Than Significant Impact:** Implementation of the project will generate solid waste. All solid waste facilities, including landfills require solid waste facility permits to operate. In San Diego County, the County Department of Environmental Health, Local Enforcement Agency issues solid waste facility permits with concurrence from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) under the authority of the Public Resources Code (Sections 44001-44018) and California Code of Regulations Title 27, Division 2, Subdivision 1, Chapter 4 (Section 21440et seq.). There are five, permitted active landfills in San Diego County with remaining capacity. Therefore, there is sufficient existing permitted solid waste capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs.

- g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

**Less than Significant Impact:** Implementation of the project will generate solid waste. All solid waste facilities, including landfills require solid waste facility permits to operate. In San Diego County, the County Department of Environmental Health, Local Enforcement Agency issues solid waste facility permits with concurrence from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) under the authority of the Public Resources Code (Sections 44001-44018) and California Code of Regulations Title 27, Division 2, Subdivision 1, Chapter 4 (Section 21440et seq.). The project will deposit all solid waste at a permitted solid waste facility and therefore, will comply with Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

**XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

- a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

☐ Potentially Significant Impact

☐ Less than Significant Impact

☒ Potentially Significant Unless  
Mitigation Incorporated

☐ No Impact

Per the instructions for evaluating environmental impacts in this Initial Study, the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory were considered in the response to each question in sections IV and V of this form. In addition to project specific impacts, this evaluation considered the projects potential for significant cumulative effects. Resources that have been evaluated as significant would be potentially impacted by the project, particularly Biology. However, mitigation has been included that clearly reduces these effects to a level below significance. This mitigation includes off-site biological mitigation, on-site mitigation for steep slopes and biology, and signage/fencing delineating the proposed open space. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that, after mitigation, significant effects associated with this project would result. Therefore, this project has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                               |

The following list of past, present and future projects were considered and evaluated as a part of this Initial Study:

PROJECT NAME	PERMIT/MAP NUMBER
Old San Marcos School House (open)	P 02-027
Rimsa	TPM 21095
Solar View Cell Site	P05-003
Crossroads Christian Church	P91-031
Merriam Mountains	S04-035, S04-036, S04-038, S04-037, TM 5381, R04-013, GPA 04-006, SPA 04-006, GPA03-013 AD06-007
Sprint Cell Site	ZAP 01-099
Verizon	ZAP 02-030
Turman Residence Cell Site	P05-004
Solar View Cell Site	P06-083
Verizon	ZAP04-026

Per the instructions for evaluating environmental impacts in this Initial Study, the potential for adverse cumulative effects were considered in the response to each question in sections I through XVI of this form. In addition to project specific impacts, this evaluation considered the projects potential for incremental effects that are cumulatively considerable. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that there are cumulative effects associated with this project. Therefore, this project has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

Per the instructions for evaluating environmental impacts in this Initial Study, the potential for adverse cumulative effects were considered in the response to each question in sections I through XVI of this form. In addition to project specific impacts, this evaluation considered the projects potential for incremental effects that are cumulatively considerable. As a result of this evaluation, there were determined to be potentially significant cumulative effects related Transportation/Traffic. However, mitigation has been included that clearly reduces these cumulative effects to a level below significance. This mitigation includes paying Traffic Impact Fees prior to obtaining a building permit. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that, after mitigation, there are cumulative effects associated with this project. Therefore, this project has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

- c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Impact                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Significant Impact |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated | <input type="checkbox"/> No Impact                    |

In the evaluation of environmental impacts in this Initial Study, the potential for adverse direct or indirect impacts to human beings were considered in the response to certain questions in sections I. Aesthetics, III. Air Quality, VI. Geology and Soils, VII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials, VIII Hydrology and Water Quality XI. Noise, XII. Population and Housing, and XV. Transportation and Traffic. As a result of this evaluation, there were determined to be potentially significant effects to human beings related to Transportation/Traffic. However, mitigation has been included that clearly reduces these effects to a level below significance. This mitigation includes paying Traffic Impact Fees prior to obtaining a building permit. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that, after mitigation, there are adverse effects to human beings associated with this project. Therefore, this project has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

## **XVIII. REFERENCES USED IN THE COMPLETION OF THE INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST**

All references to Federal, State and local regulation are available on the Internet. For Federal regulation refer to <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/>. For State regulation refer to [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov). For County regulation refer to [www.amlegal.com](http://www.amlegal.com). All other references are available upon request.

Stormwater Management Plan, dated September 18, 2008; BHA, Inc., 5115 Avenida Encinas, Ste L.; Carlsbad, CA 92008

Biological Assessment, dated October 14, 2008; BHA, Inc., 5115 Avenida Encinas, Ste L.; Carlsbad, CA 92008

Rock Fall Analysis, dated June 18, 2008; Vine & Middleton Engineering, Inc.; 2450 Auto Park Way; Escondido, CA 92029

Cultural Resource Survey, dated May 2005; Gallegos & Associates; 5671 Palmer Way, Ste A.; Carlsbad, CA 92008

CEQA Drainage Study, revised September 8, 2006; BHA, Inc., 5115 Avenida Encinas, Ste L.; Carlsbad, CA 92008

Traffic Impact Analysis, dated October 15, 2004; Linscott Law & Greenspan, Engineers; 4542 Ruffner Ste, Ste 100; San Diego, CA 92111

Visual Impact Analysis, dated October 2008; Dudek; 605 Third St; Encinitas, CA 92024

### **AESTHETICS**

California Street and Highways Code [California Street and Highways Code, Section 260-283. (<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>)

California Scenic Highway Program, California Streets and Highways Code, Section 260-283. (<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic/scpr.htm>)

County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use. The Zoning Ordinance of San Diego County. Sections 5200-5299; 5700-5799; 5900-5910. ([www.co.san-diego.ca.us](http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us))

County of San Diego, Board Policy I-73: Hillside Development Policy. ([www.co.san-diego.ca.us](http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us))

County of San Diego, Board Policy I-104: Policy and Procedures for Preparation of Community Design Guidelines, Section 396.10 of the County Administrative Code and Section 5750 et seq. of the County Zoning Ordinance. ([www.co.san-diego.ca.us](http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us))

County of San Diego, General Plan, Scenic Highway Element VI and Scenic Highway Program. ([ceres.ca.gov](http://ceres.ca.gov))

County of San Diego Light Pollution Code, Title 5, Division 9 (Sections 59.101-59.115 of the County Code of Regulatory Ordinances) as added by Ordinance No 6900, effective January 18, 1985, and amended July 17, 1986 by Ordinance No. 7155. ([www.amlegal.com](http://www.amlegal.com))

County of San Diego Wireless Communications Ordinance [San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances. ([www.amlegal.com](http://www.amlegal.com))

Design Review Guidelines for the Communities of San Diego County. (Alpine, Bonsall, Fallbrook, Julian, Lakeside, Ramona, Spring Valley, Sweetwater, Valley Center).

Federal Communications Commission, Telecommunications Act of 1996 [Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. LA. No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996). (<http://www.fcc.gov/Reports/tcom1996.txt>)



Institution of Lighting Engineers, Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Light Pollution, Warwickshire, UK, 2000 (<http://www.dark-skies.org/ile-gd-e.htm>)

International Light Inc., Light Measurement Handbook, 1997. ([www.intl-light.com](http://www.intl-light.com))

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Lighting Research Center, National Lighting Product Information Program (NLPPI), Lighting Answers, Volume 7, Issue 2, March 2003. ([www.lrc.rpi.edu](http://www.lrc.rpi.edu))

US Census Bureau, Census 2000, Urbanized Area Outline Map, San Diego, CA. (<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/maps/ua2kmaps.htm>)

US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) modified Visual Management System. ([www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov))

US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Visual Impact Assessment for Highway Projects.

US Department of Transportation, National Highway System Act of 1995 [Title III, Section 304. Design Criteria for the National Highway System. (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legisregs/nhsdatoc.html>)

#### AGRICULTURE RESOURCES

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California Department of Conservation, Office of Land Conversion, "California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model Instruction Manual," 1997. ([www.consrv.ca.gov](http://www.consrv.ca.gov))

California Farmland Conservancy Program, 1996. ([www.consrv.ca.gov](http://www.consrv.ca.gov))

California Land Conservation (Williamson) Act, 1965. ([www.ceres.ca.gov](http://www.ceres.ca.gov), [www.consrv.ca.gov](http://www.consrv.ca.gov))

California Right to Farm Act, as amended 1996. ([www.qp.gov.bc.ca](http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca))

County of San Diego Agricultural Enterprises and Consumer Information Ordinance, 1994, Title 6, Division 3, Ch. 4. Sections 63.401-63.408. ([www.amlegal.com](http://www.amlegal.com))

County of San Diego, Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures, "2002 Crop Statistics and Annual Report," 2002. ([www.sdcountry.ca.gov](http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov))

United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service LESA System. ([www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov), [www.swcs.org](http://www.swcs.org))

United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey for the San Diego Area, California. 1973. ([soils.usda.gov](http://soils.usda.gov))

#### AIR QUALITY

CEQA Air Quality Analysis Guidance Handbook, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Revised November 1993. ([www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov))

County of San Diego Air Pollution Control District's Rules and Regulations, updated August 2003. ([www.co-san-diego.ca.us](http://www.co-san-diego.ca.us))

Federal Clean Air Act US Code; Title 42; Chapter 85 Subchapter 1. ([www4.law.cornell.edu](http://www4.law.cornell.edu))

#### BIOLOGY

California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). Southern California Coastal Sage Scrub Natural Community Conservation Planning Process Guidelines. CDFG and California Resources Agency, Sacramento, California. 1993. ([www.dfg.ca.gov](http://www.dfg.ca.gov))

County of San Diego, An Ordinance Amending the San Diego County Code to Establish a Process for Issuance of the Coastal Sage Scrub Habitat Loss Permits and Declaring the Urgency Thereof to Take Effect Immediately, Ordinance No. 8365. 1994, Title 8, Div 6, Ch. 1. Sections 86.101-86.105, 87.202.2. ([www.amlegal.com](http://www.amlegal.com))

County of San Diego, Biological Mitigation Ordinance, Ord. Nos. 8845, 9246, 1998 (new series). ([www.co-san-diego.ca.us](http://www.co-san-diego.ca.us))

County of San Diego, Implementing Agreement by and between United States Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game and County of San Diego. County of San Diego, Multiple Species Conservation Program, 1998.

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Stanislaus Audubon Society, Inc. v County of Stanislaus (5<sup>th</sup> Dist. 1995) 33 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 144, 155-159 [39 Cal. Rptr.2d 54]. ([www.ceres.ca.gov](http://www.ceres.ca.gov))

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. America's wetlands: our vital link between land and water. Office of Water, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds. EPA843-K-95-001. 1995b. ([www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov))

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook. Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 1996. ([endangered.fws.gov](http://endangered.fws.gov))

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([migratorybirds.fws.gov](http://migratorybirds.fws.gov))

## CULTURAL RESOURCES

California Health & Safety Code. §18950-18961, State Historic Building Code. ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

California Health & Safety Code. §5020-5029, Historical Resources. ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

California Health & Safety Code. §7050.5, Human Remains. ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, (AB 978), 2001. ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

California Public Resources Code §5024.1, Register of Historical Resources. ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

California Public Resources Code. §5031-5033, State Landmarks. ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

California Public Resources Code. §5097-5097.6, Archaeological, Paleontological, and Historic Sites. ([www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov))

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